



Hon Peter Collier MLC
Minister for Education; Energy; Indigenous Affairs

Our Ref: 34-22828

Hon Brian Ellis MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr Ellis

Thank you for your letter dated 12 November 2012 seeking comments on the terms of the petition and submission from Friends of Australian Rock Art (FARA) regarding industrial development on the Burrup Peninsula.

The importance of the Burrup Peninsula as an area of cultural and heritage significance to Aboriginal people and the Western Australian community is acknowledged and recognised.

The Department of Indigenous Affairs (DIA) has been working with relevant stakeholders including the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation, to greater protect the Aboriginal heritage values on the Burrup Peninsula. This is being achieved through the development of a management plan for the upcoming National Park, and Aboriginal rangers to manage and protect the heritage values of the area.

DIA is a member of the Burrup Rock Art Technical Working Group which has been undertaking studies into the impact of the industrial emissions on rock art in the Burrup Peninsula. These studies, which include regular independent monitoring of colour change and spectral mineralogy of the rock art by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), have shown no measurable impact to the rock art as a result of industrial emissions.

Please do not hesitate to contact Dr Kathryn Przywolnik, Registrar of Aboriginal Sites, DIA, on telephone (08) 6551 8000, or at Kathryn.Przywolnik@dia.wa.gov.au, if you require further information or have any queries.

Kind regards

Hon Peter Collier MLC
MINISTER FOR EDUCATION; ENERGY; INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

- 6 DEC 2012

PUBLIC